

Equality of Property Rights for Women Demanded

Suffrage Only Beginning of New Freedom

Republican Party Urged to Correct Injustices Relating to Women in Economic and Business Life

Ideal of Real Equality Thirteenth, Fourteenth and Fifteenth Amendments as Basis for Fair Deal

To the Editor of The Tribune.

Sir: Regarded from the standpoint of national history, economic progress and constitutional development the Republican party is the standard bearer for the vital concepts that have come to be designated by the composite adjective term "American." It uniformly has gauged the trend of thought underlying the national outlook, and has molded public opinion into constructive achievement. One may be sure, therefore, that it will take no narrow view of that great movement which is about to sweep away the barrier that for centuries has permitted the sex issue to be an insuperable bar to the realization of those principles of equality and right which are set forth in our Declaration of Independence.

Woman suffrage in itself is a mere political phenomenon. Its strength is an instrument, not an achievement. It flashes the light of equality in a sphere where heretofore there has been a shadow of injustice, but essentially it is merely a means, not an end. The chief of woman suffrage is not party politics is not to be derided, nor may one underestimate the tremendous moral force that it will exert in matters of legislation and administration, but the thing for which women are primarily fighting is bigger than this—it is equality in the broadest, personal, economic, constitutional and national sense.

Inequalities in Laws

The attainment of woman suffrage leaves untouched the inequalities in the laws of all the states touching women's property rights, their rights relating to their children, their liberty of action in commercial and economic activities, their power to hold office and in many other directions.

When the Republican party sought to put life into the principle of emancipation for the negro did it merely pass a suffrage amendment and leave each state with an age-long fight for putting the principle of equality into active operation? The Thirteenth, Fourteenth and Fifteenth amendments to the Constitution furnish the true criterion of political equality for women.

1. The Thirteenth Amendment, abolishing slavery and involuntary servitude, should be so enlarged as to wipe out the whole legal concept of the subservience, inferiority and male control of women in marital and all other situations.

Wipe Out Discriminations

2. The Fourteenth Amendment, guaranteeing equality of right, privilege and immunity under the law, should be so enlarged as to eradicate all discriminations between the sexes with reference to property rights, contracts and commercial powers, child control and the like.

3. The Fifteenth Amendment finds its counterpart in the suffrage amendment, but this should be so enlarged as to remove all existing disqualifications preventing women from holding public office.

The formulation of these principles into our constitutional system falls to the lot of the Republican party of progress. To leave them unenforced is to miss the whole aim of political enfranchisement.

INDEPENDENT VOTER.

Christianize the Mexicans

Churches and Schools Held Solution of Problem

To the Editor of The Tribune.

Sir: American democracy was founded on the Christian home and the open Bible. American youth and not in vain that democracy might live on. Yet it is to us that younger democrats to-day reach out for encouragement.

The Mexican Republic has been a failure, and the Chinese Republic is in a sorry state simply because the two fundamental elements of our own are deficient factors.

Mexico is our sore wound. Four out of five cannot read the Bible and are ignorant of our Maker. What we expended for border patrol the first ten years would build up and maintain for ten years a college, hospital, social settlement and a church in every Mexican town of 4,000. Therein lies our solution for the Mexican problem.

J. B. MAZZIE.

801 West Seventy-second Street, New York.

Standards of Republicanism Incorporated Into a Plank

To the Editor of The Tribune.

Sir: Below is my idea of a straightforward plank—something the average individual can understand, rendered in a form calculated to attract his interest and free from that "dry as dust" atmosphere that the average reader usually attaches to any article dealing with affairs of state.

One has only to study the average reader, either in the subway, train or home, to see that he or she invariably turns to some item of passing interest rather than wade through a party article cluttered with highfalutin' political jargon.

The Meaning of the Word Resolved, to work together, for a better America.

Every one of us to fight for the common good. Prizes will be lived up to. Unity is strength.

Less friction in governmental issues. Less friction in American independence. Citizenship will secure a citizen's rights.

Americanization to become all that the word suggests.

Not one law for one and one for another, but one law for all.

Bridgeport, Conn. W. L. P.

Suggests Ten-Year Terms For the Nation's Diplomats

To the Editor of The Tribune.

Sir: Ambassadors, ministers and all important members of the diplomatic corps receiving their appointments from the Executive should not be subject to dismissal by reason of a change in administration, but should be appointed for ten years, providing Congress elects to retain their services for the term specified.

To-Day's Prize Letter

Constitution Proposed To the Editor of The Tribune.

Sir: What we want and what we need is an administration which will show the mass of citizens—those who labor—that this government is founded upon the principles "of the people, for the people, and by the people."

The one great fundamental cause of this present existing economic condition is that the great percentage of working people, those who have been provoking strife and disorder, which has proved such a hindrance to normal production, do not realize that in the end it is they who will suffer.

The man of wealth can in time of economic distress and disaster pack up his chattels and move out, whereas the man dependent upon his earnings to keep body and soul together must stick and suffer.

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To End Industrial Strife

wrong will not right another wrong. Life is not an algebraic equation wherein two minus make a plus. It takes right to right a wrong. In such a time as this personal concessions must be made for general welfare.

The entire world is suffering from a great shock. Why jump on her back when she is down and pound her and whack her and open all the old sores? Why not join hands in a united effort to restore all to normal conditions? Then when the world is again normal, split your hairs and ransack your brains for petty points for diversity of opinion.

Now get to work, Dig. Smile. Get a man who can look beyond his own selfish desires—yes, who can even look beyond the walls of America toward a world that is crying for aid and cooperation.

LOIS M. BULL.

Port Chester, N. Y.

Platform Builders

Asked to Assure

Rule by Economy

Americanism, Prudent

League of Nations, Un-

trammelled Army and

Navy and Federal Thrift

To the Editor of The Tribune.

Sir: The platform contest has been widely patronized. It would be reasonable to assume that a platform which embraced the best and most popular features of all those presented would have a fair chance of appealing strongly to the nation as a whole. Why not, therefore, a platform embracing:

Americanism—with a vigorous educational campaign to further it, in place of blind discountenance of free speech and radicalism of all kinds.

A league of nations—with reservations now almost universally accepted as prudent.

An army and navy untrammelled by inexperienced civilian direction.

A business administration guaranteeing economy in government expenditure, and a sympathetic cooperation with the leaders of capital and labor toward increased production and transportation facilities and a corresponding decrease in living costs.

A platform somewhat similar to the above would, I think, generally satisfy the desires of the people, as interpreted from The Tribune's letters.

Moreover, if that man is found who can put such a platform into effect he has a great opportunity. Such a man I think is available. He has already denounced any curtailment of free speech and personal liberty. He has already promised his support to that party which will put through the league, if elected, able men at the head of the army and navy are assured, for he acknowledges no obligation to any party machine, and if elected would have no debts to pay. This freedom from political obligations would help toward economy and efficiency in administration. Cabinet officers and department heads could be selected entirely on the basis of fitness.

R. M. JOHNSON,

New Haven, Conn.

Universal Training Needed

Nation Should Not Depend

Upon Ex-Service Men

To the Editor of The Tribune.

Sir—Some of your correspondents suggest that we do not need universal military training for at least ten years, because we have several million ex-service men available for immediate defense. They argue, therefore, that the present execution of the plan would entail a superfluous and wasteful expenditure.

The shortsighted nature of such a view becomes evident upon scrutiny. Any system of training would require several years' headway before it could be made an effective reality; it could not, as some seem to imagine, instantly become a reliable safeguard at its inception. While we are indeed fortunate at present in having in our midst so many men experienced in war, we should begin promptly to prepare for the time when those men will no longer be serviceable. The temptation to postpone an enterprise of this kind, especially when some expense is involved, will grow with each succeeding year. And if we are lucky enough to be favored with peace during the next decade, a false sense of security will become established in the minds of the coming generation.

When we purpose to create an institution that may forever be essential to our safety and welfare, a policy of procrastination with regard to beginning is little short of criminal.

G. W. FRIEDMAN,

28 New York Avenue, Brooklyn.

Conditions of the

Platform Contest

The Tribune invites you to write planks for a Republican platform and to write letters about planks proposed by other readers through its columns.

For the best planks and letters The Tribune offers these prizes:

For the best plank..... \$500.00

For the second best plank..... 250.00

For each of the eight next best planks..... 100.00

For the best letter a daily prize of..... 10.00

For the best letter in the whole competition..... 100.00

The Tribune will make up a platform of ten planks to be determined by your votes. The ten issues receiving the most votes will be the planks. The ten planks that best express the chosen issues will be selected for the prize awards.

Each plank is limited to 100 words. Of two planks or letters of equal merit the shorter will be chosen.

Every plank and letter must bear the name and address of the sender, although a new de plume will be published if the writer desires.

The contest will close at midnight, April 8, 1920. Manuscripts will not be returned.

The judges of the contest will be three of The Tribune's editors. They will base their decisions on sound thinking and brevity, clearness and strength of statement.

Not one law for one and one for another, but one law for all.

Bridgeport, Conn. W. L. P.

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Welfare Work Requires Aid Of Government

Exclusive Jurisdiction of Marriage and Divorce Is Recommended for Federal Control

'Big Brother' Idea Urged Platform Declaration Asked for Commission on Codification of State Laws

To the Editor of The Tribune.

Sir: Conservation of real American citizenship must necessarily be an issue at this time, when it behooves America to develop the